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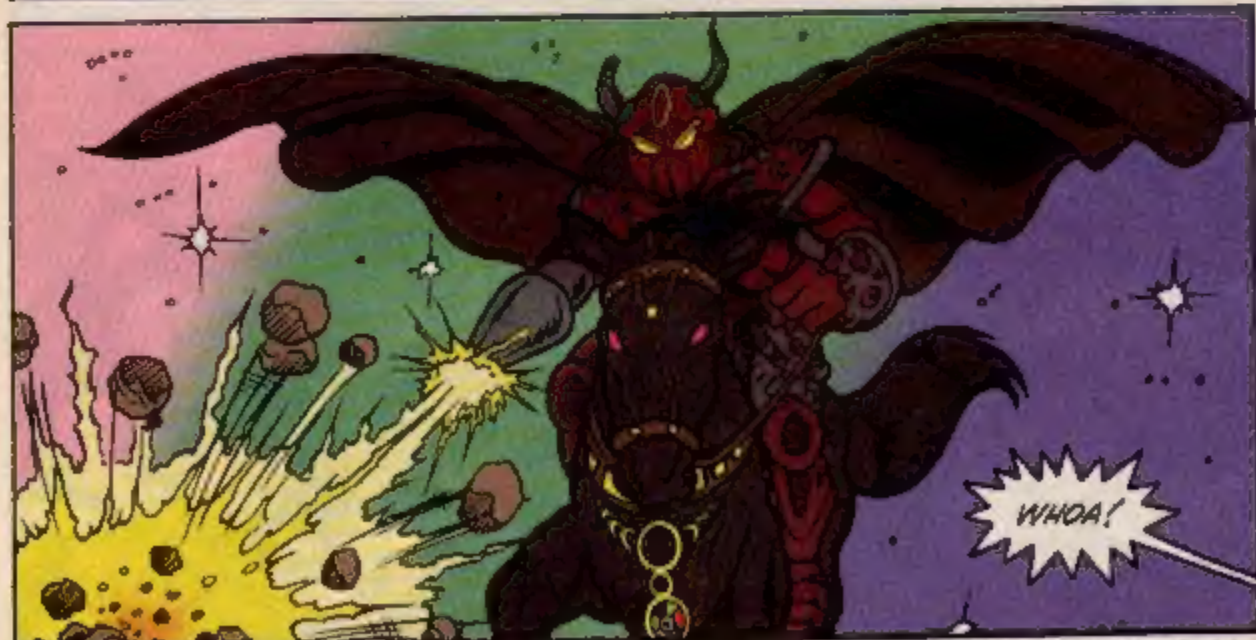
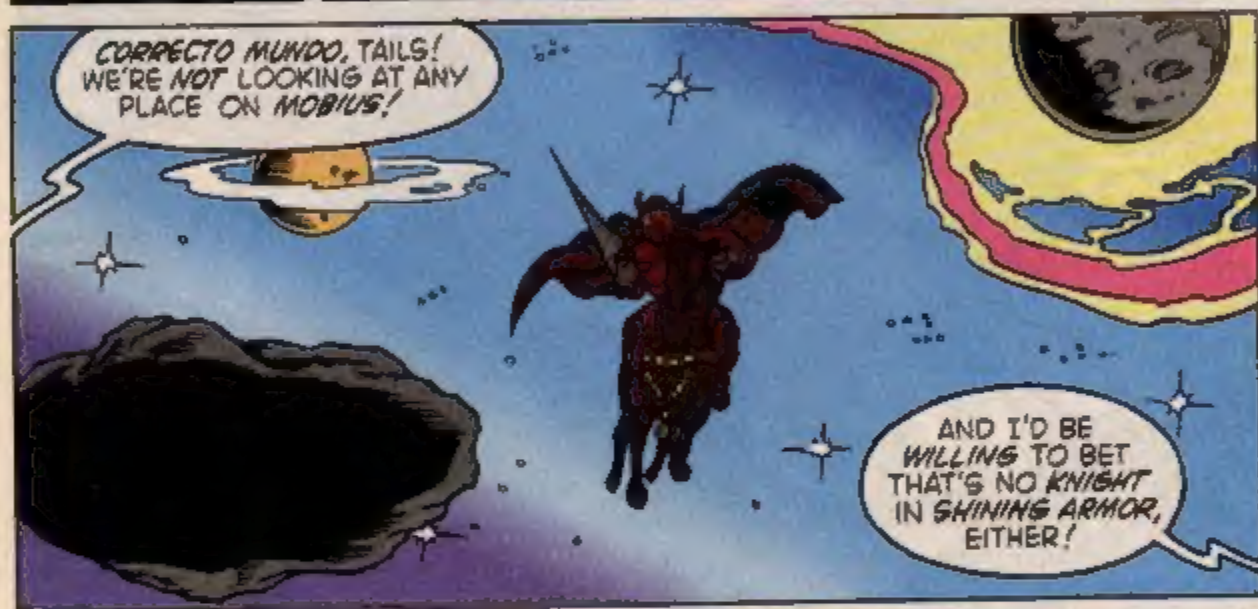
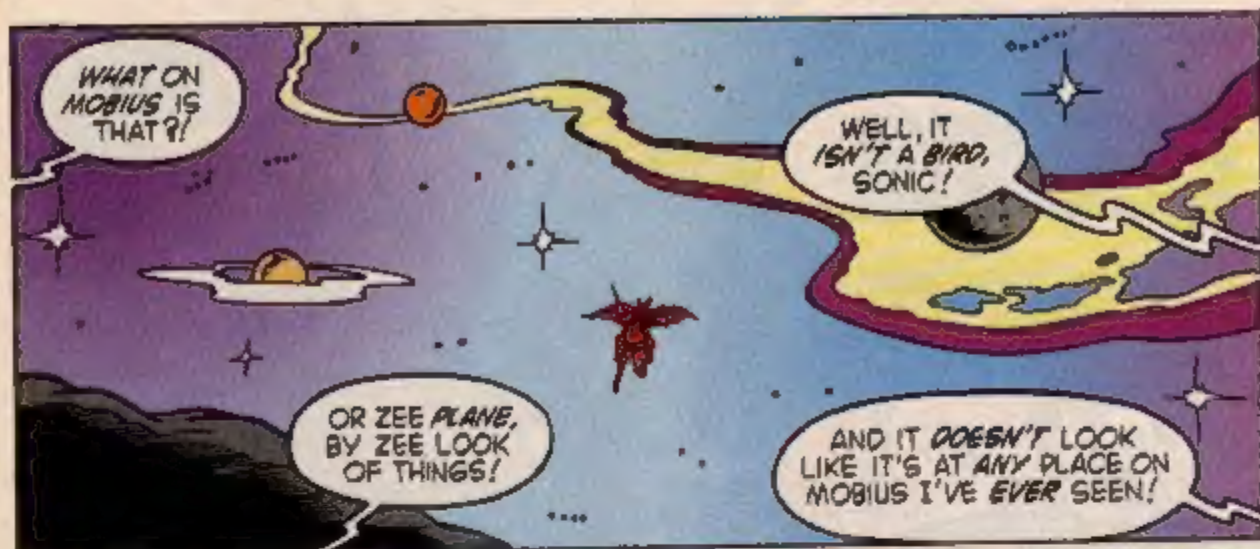
SONIC

THE HEDGEHOG

KNUCKLES
SOLO STORY
INSIDE!



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I'LL TELL YOU THIS,

SONIC

THAT IS ONE MEAN DUDE!

HEART ^{of} DARKNESS

PART 2

YEAH!
BUT IS HE
COOL?

ZEE BOTTOM
LINE--WHAT EES
HE TO US?

YOU DIDN'T CALL
US JUST TO LOOK AT
STATE-OF-THE ART SPECIAL
EFFECTS, ROTOR?

SCRIPT:
KEN
PENDERS

PENCILS:
ART
MAWHINNEY

INKS:
MARVO

LETTERING:
MINDY
EISMAN

COLORING:
BARRY
GROSSMAN

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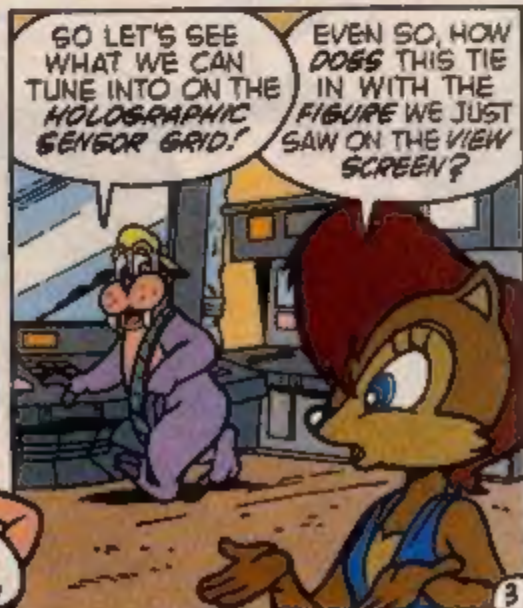
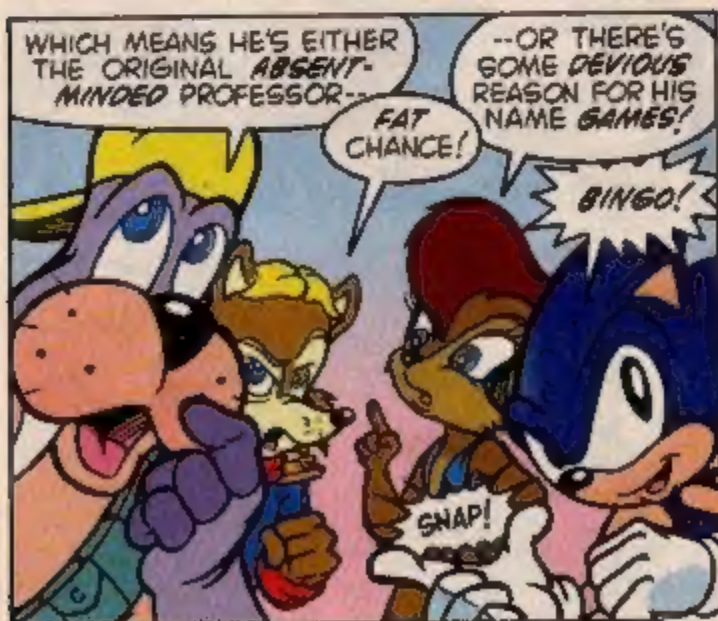
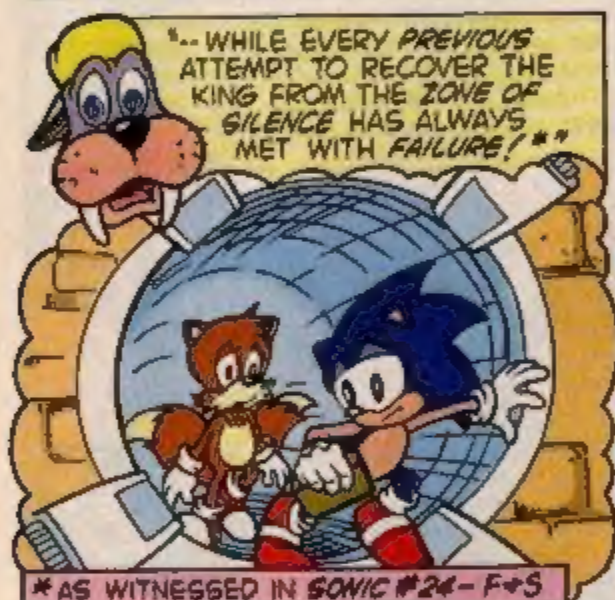
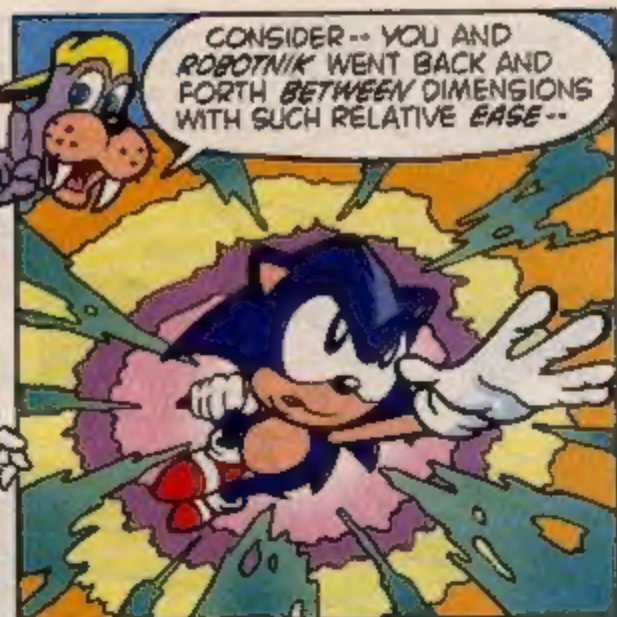
YOU'RE RIGHT, AS
USUAL, PRINCESS!

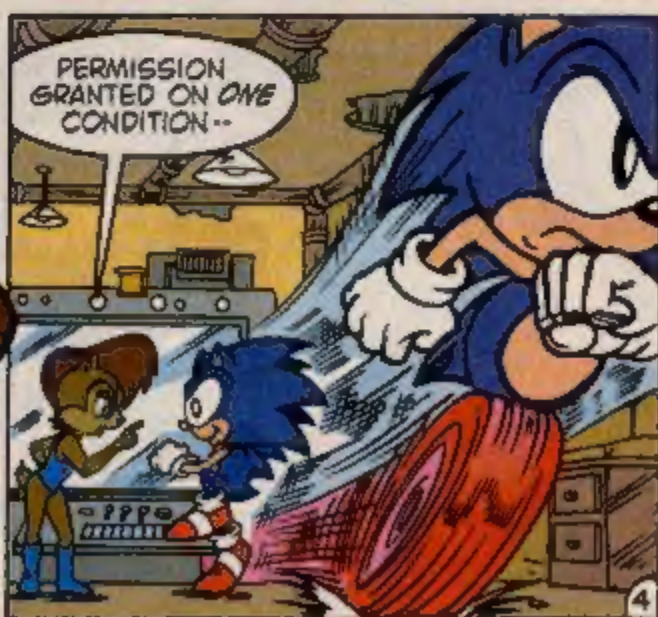
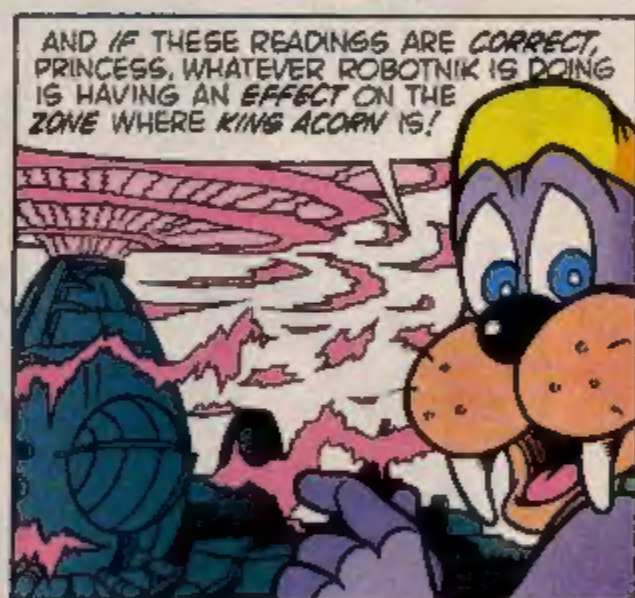
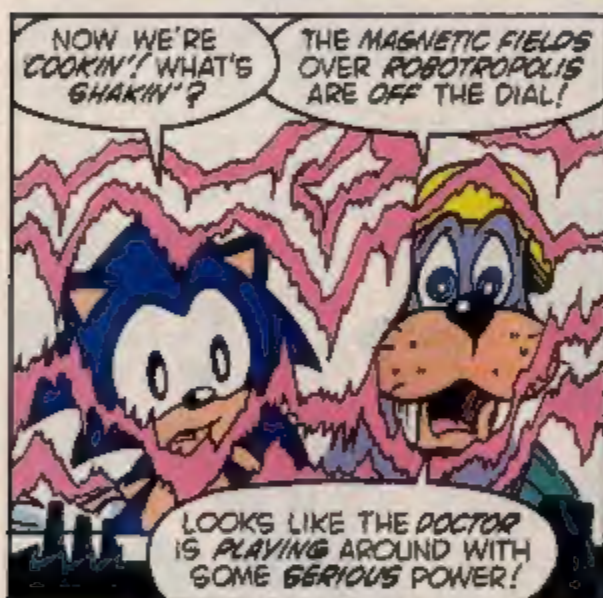
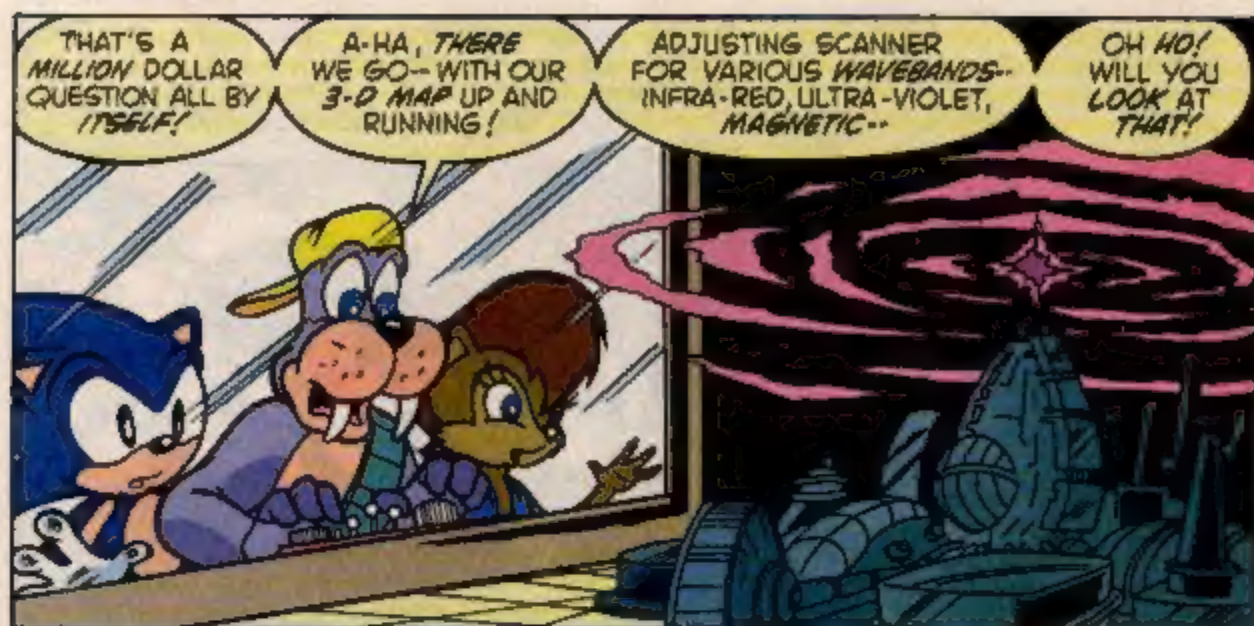
YOU'RE LOOKING AT LIVE
PICTURES BEAMED TO US FROM
A CAMERA I SENT INTO THE
ZONE OF SILENCE!

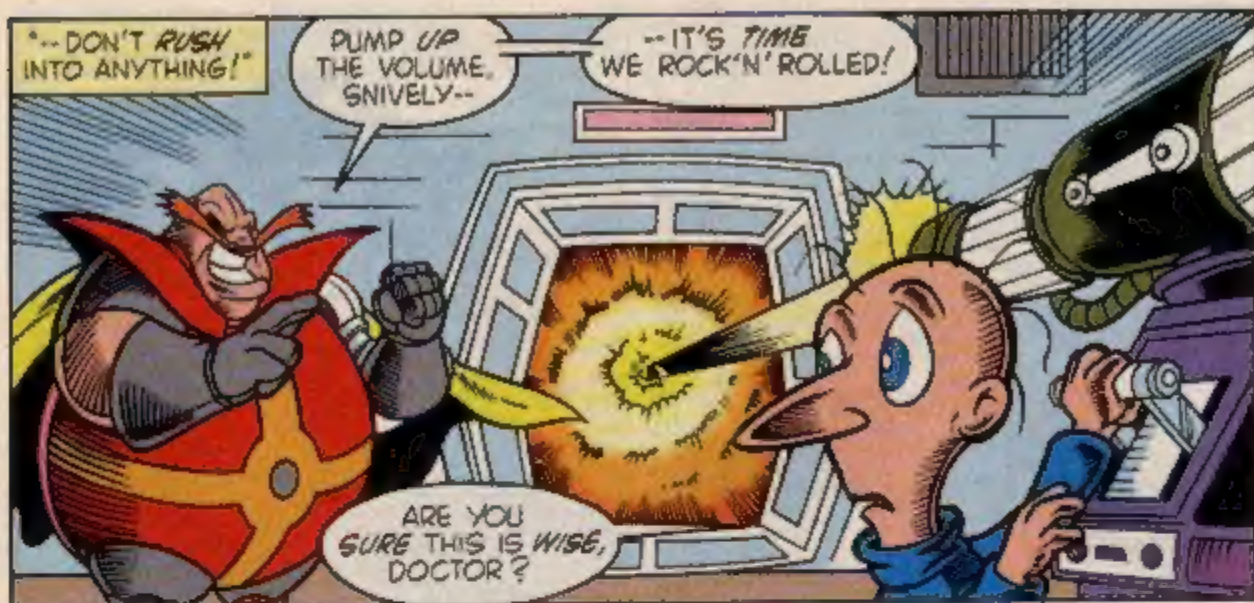
BUT I WAS
IN THE ZONE NOT
TOO LONG AGO!*

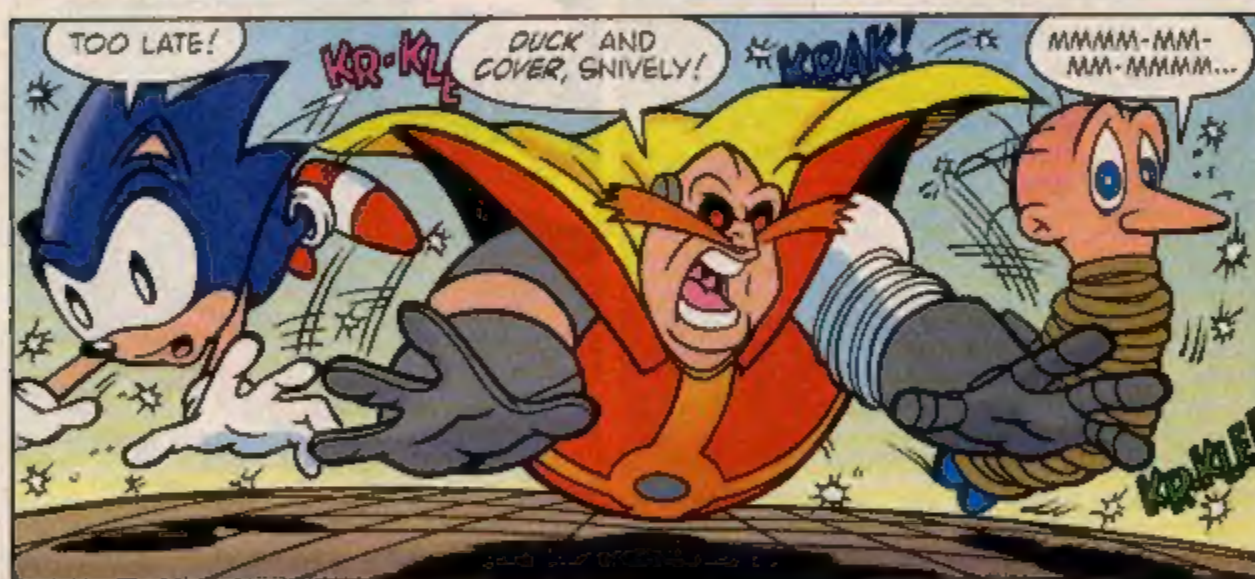
IT DIDN'T
LOOK ANYTHING
LIKE THAT!

*REMEMBER? IN SONIC #30-- F+S













"MY MENTOR KODOS HAD DEVELOPED A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT ITEMS TO KEEP LAW AND ORDER OVER THE POPULACE!"

"THIS LOOKS LIKE A NASTY LITTLE SOMETHING!"

"QUITE THE TOY!"



"THE BEST ONE WAS A CONVENIENT LITTLE THING CALLED THE ZONE OF SILENCE-- ANOTHER DIMENSION OF REALITY SUITABLE FOR STRANDING ONE'S ENEMIES!"

"YOU WON'T GET AWAY WITH THIS, ROBOTNIK!"

"I DON'T SEE ANYONE STOPPING ME, KING ACORN!"



"HOWEVER, IT TURNED OUT THE ZONE WASN'T A DIMENSION WITH FINITE PROPORTIONS. IT WAS A FORCE OF NATURE--"

"A BREACH--?!"

"IN THE MIDDLE OF MY LAB??"

"WHAT IS GOING ON HERE?!"



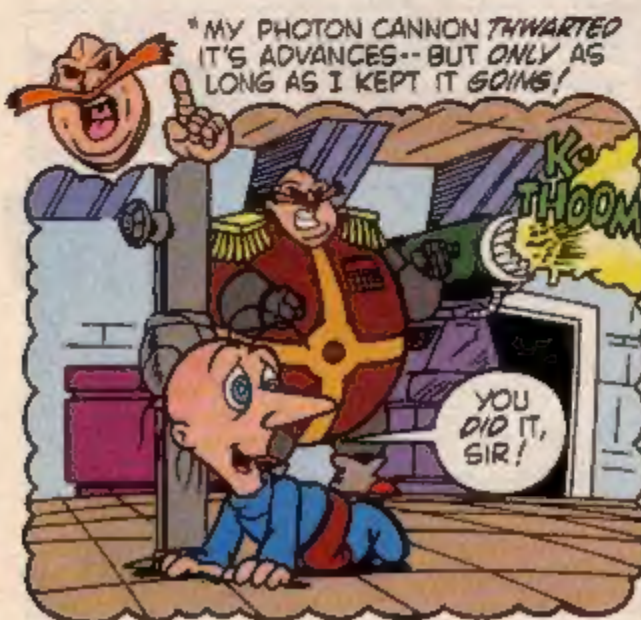
"--THAT WOULD KEEP GROWING-- MERGING WITH WHATEVER EXISTED AROUND IT ON DIFFERENT ENERGY AND PHYSICAL LEVELS!"

"DOCTOR! HELP!"

"I'M BEING SUCKED IN!"

"I KNOW I'M GOING TO REGRET THIS!"

"KLIK!"



"MY PHOTON CANNON THWARTED ITS ADVANCES-- BUT ONLY AS LONG AS I KEPT IT GOING!"

"K-THOOM!"

"YOU DID IT, SIR!"



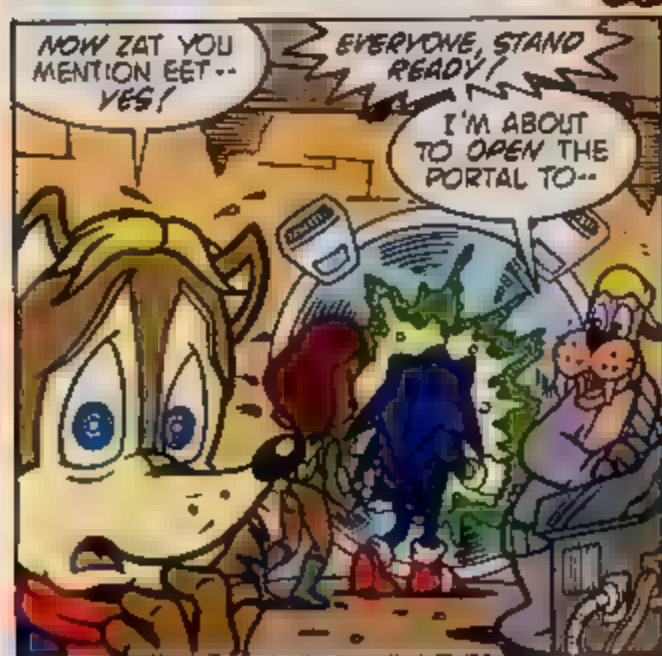
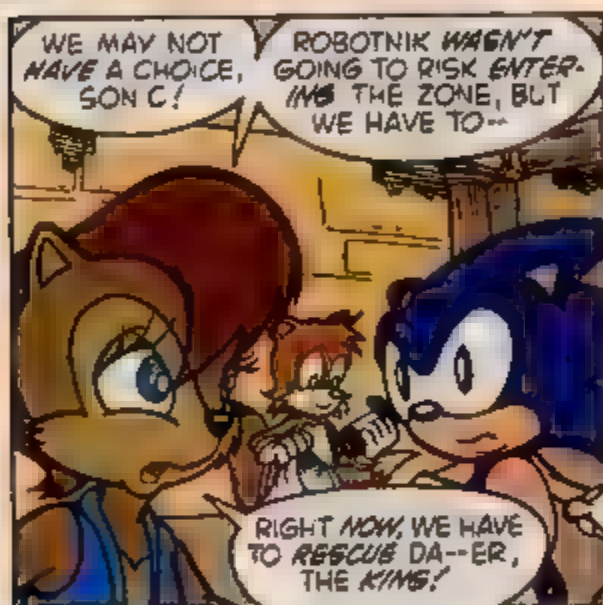
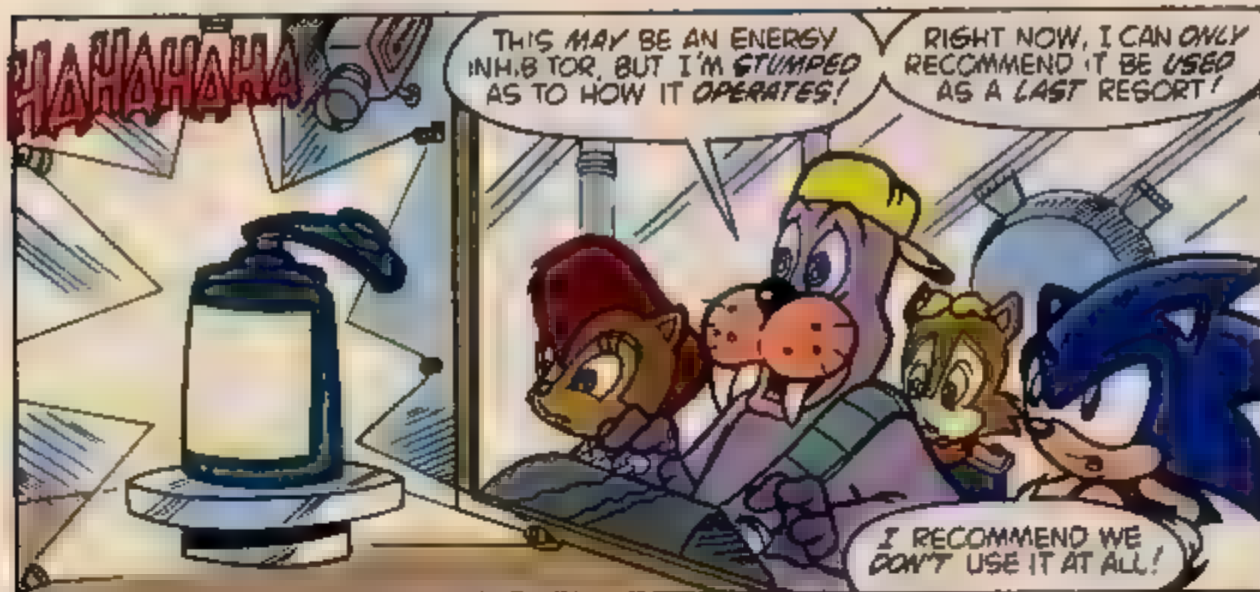
"FURTHER EXPERIMENTATION ACKNOWLEDGED SOMETHING HAD TO GIVE!"

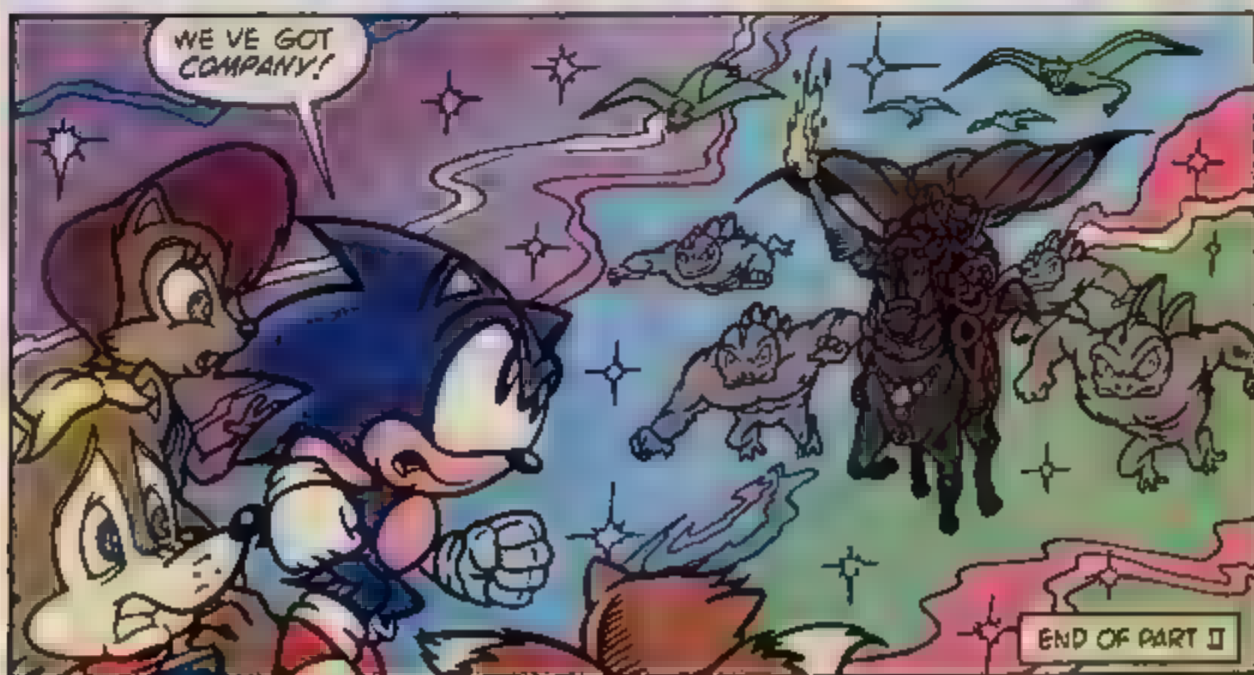
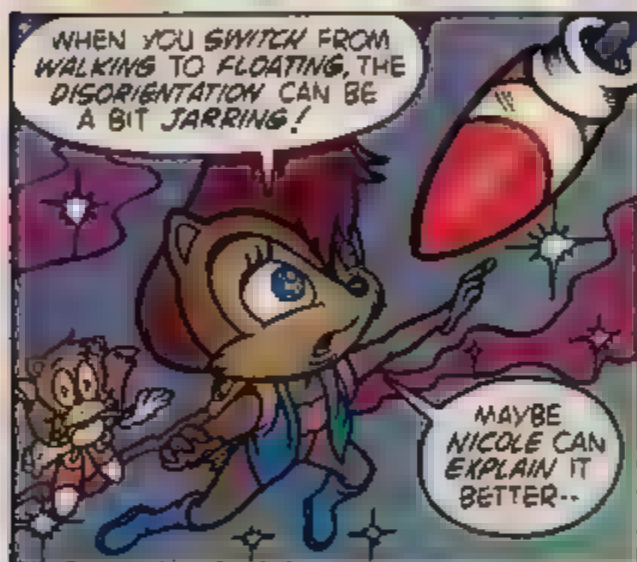
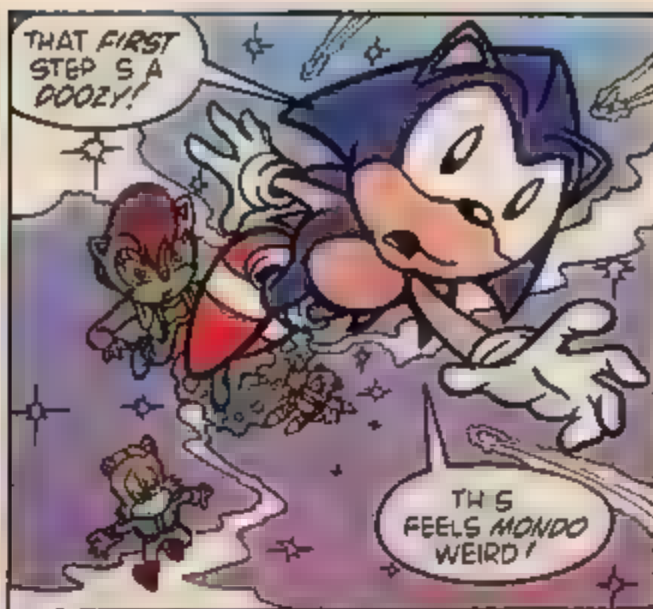
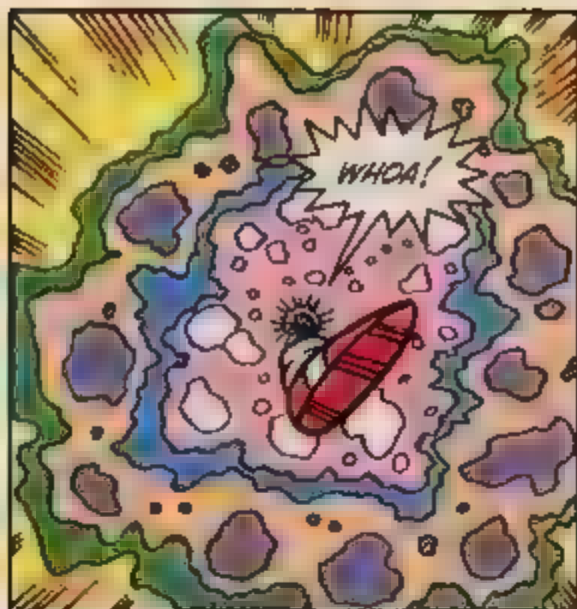
"WE HAVEN'T MUCH TIME, SNIVELY!"

"WE MUST DESTROY THE ZONE BEFORE IT CONSUMES AND DESTROYS MOBIUS!"

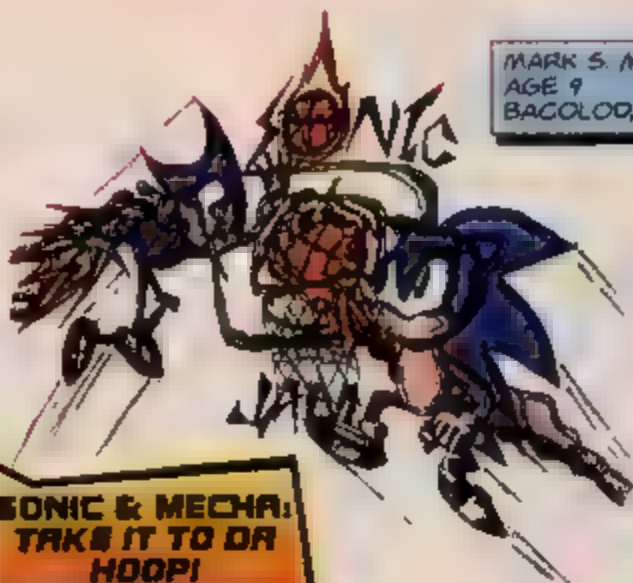
"BUT WHAT ABOUT THE THE KING?"







SOON! CART



MARK S. MAGALONA
AGE 9
BACOLOD, PHILIPPINES

**SONIC & MECHA:
TAKE IT TO DR
HOOPI**

NICHOLAS KING
AGE 12
TASMANIA, AUSTRALIA

**KNUCKLES
READY FOR
ACTION!**



HIROTAKA SASAKO
TOKYO, JAPAN



**SONIC VS.
EVIL SONIC!**

if

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SONIC THE HEDGEHOG™

HEART of DARKNESS

PART III

SURRENDER,
OR ELSE FACE THE
CONSEQUENCES!

THAT'S NOT
EXACTLY A FRIENDLY
WAY TO START THINGS
OFF, BJD!

I'M NOT YOUR
"BUD," "PAL," "BRO" OR
ANY OTHER TERM YOU
MAY USE SUGGESTING
FAMILIARITY!

HE EES RIGHT!
I'D RATHER SEE OPEN
HONEST HOSTILITY,
MON AMI!

AT LEAST YOU
KNOW HE'LL HIT
YOU WHERE T
HURTS ZE MOST!

MY PATIENCE
S WEARING THIN,
FOOL!

I'D LIKE YOUR
REPLY NOW!

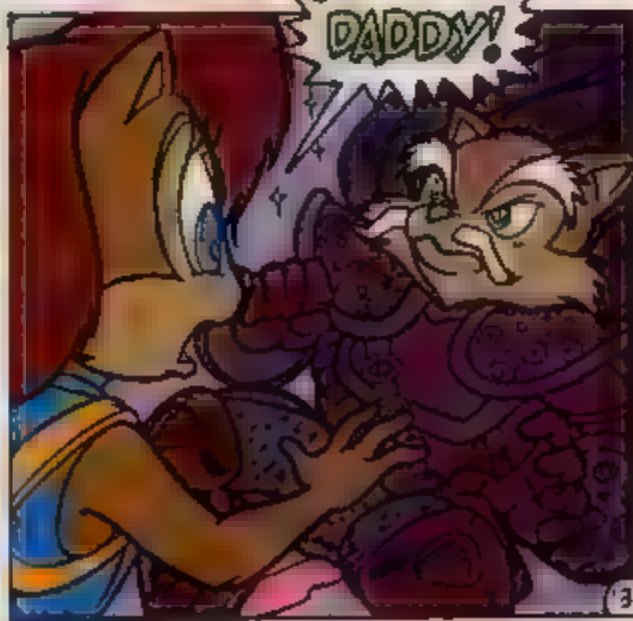
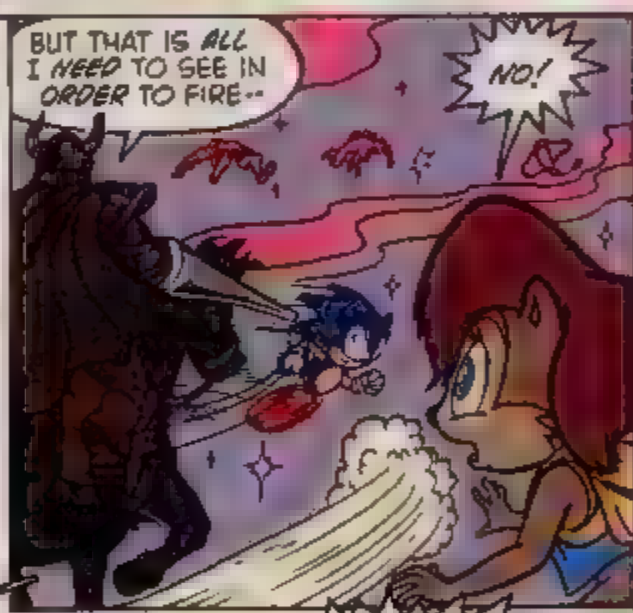
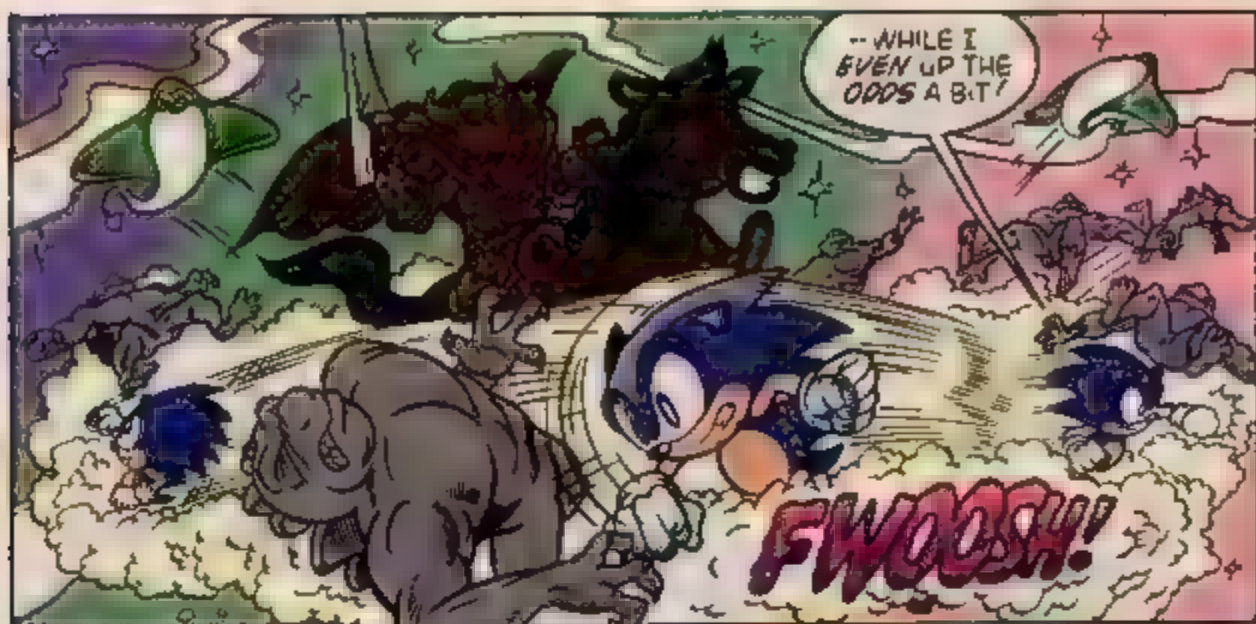
CAN WE
TALK--?

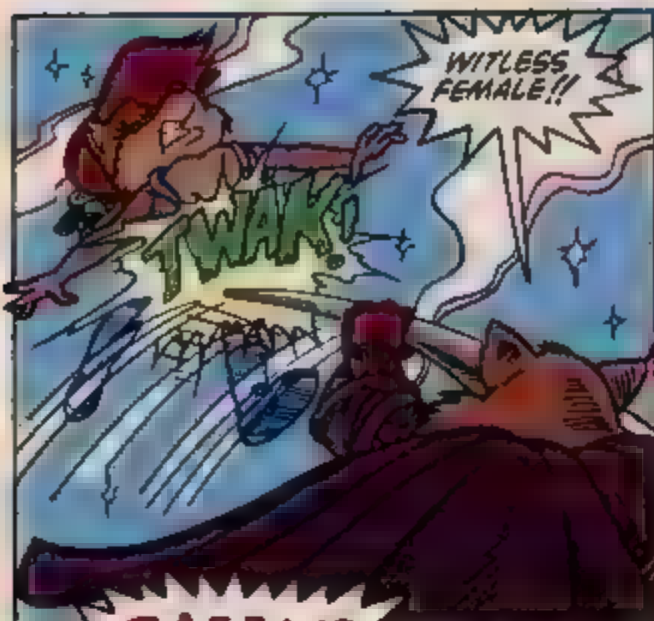
SNORT!

OW!

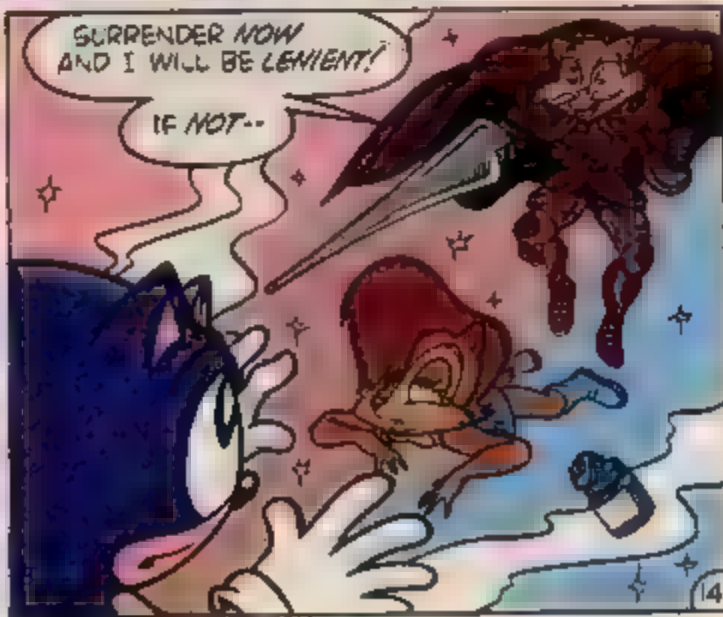
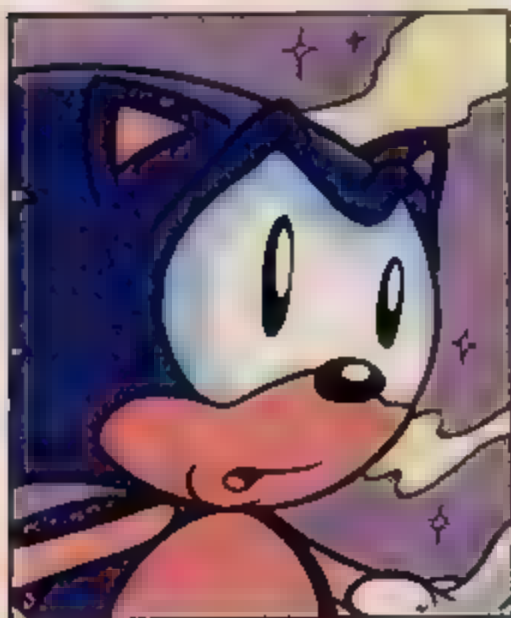
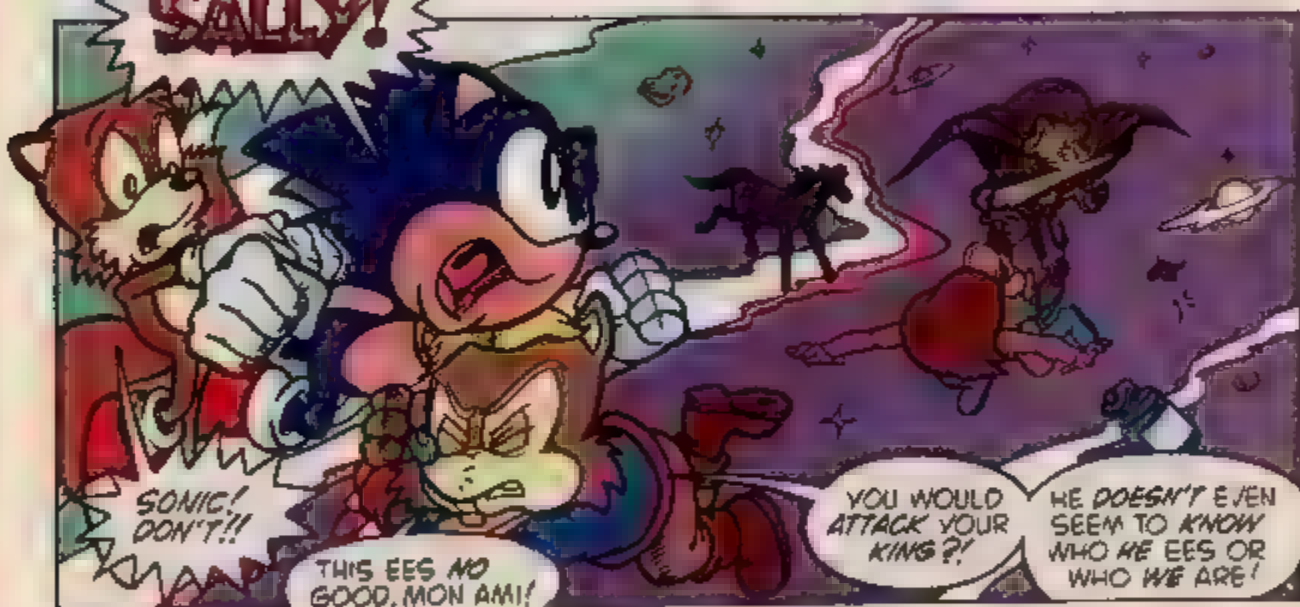
DIDN'T YOUR MOM
EVER TEACH YOU
IT'S NOT POLITE
TO POINT?

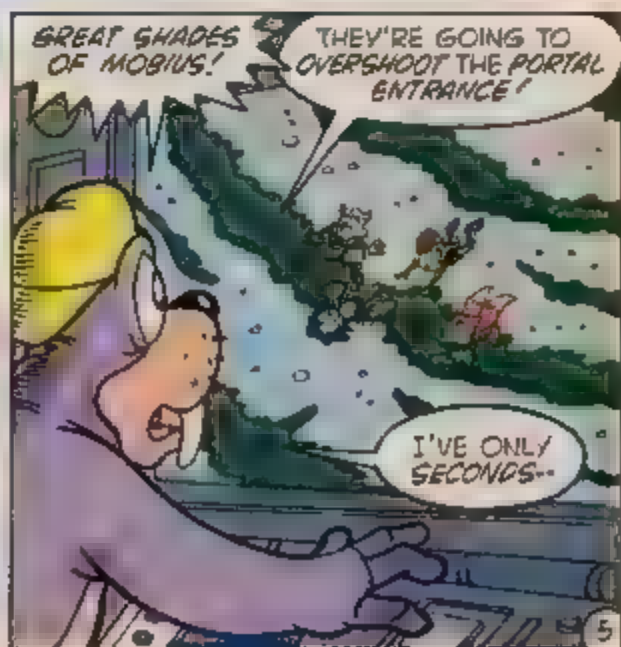
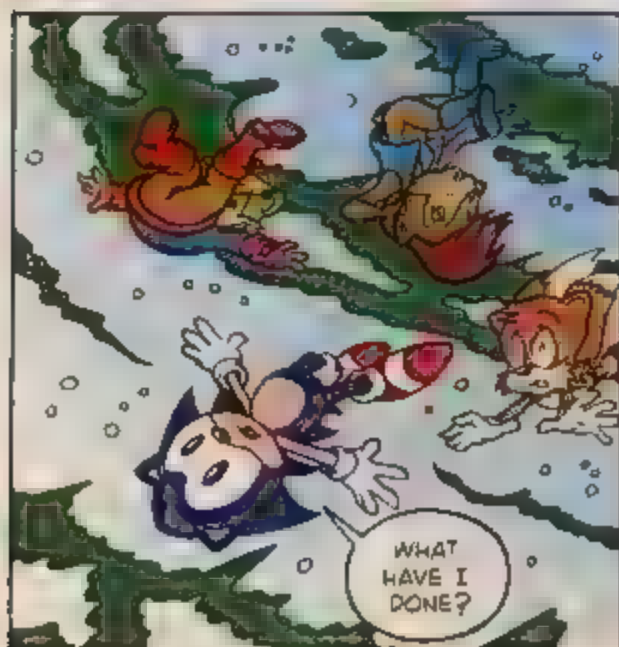
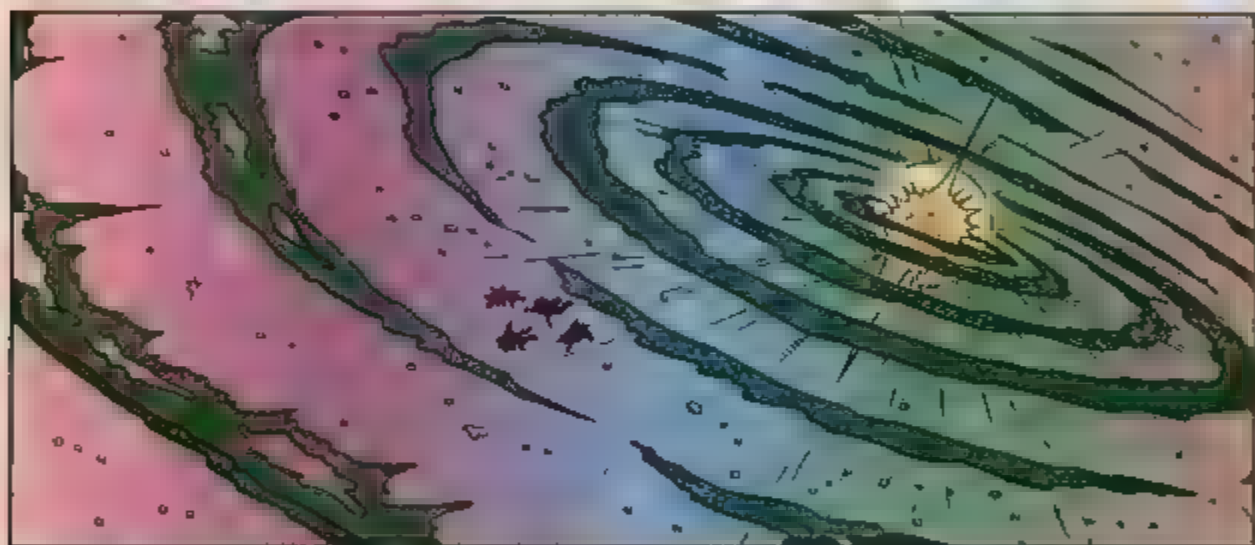
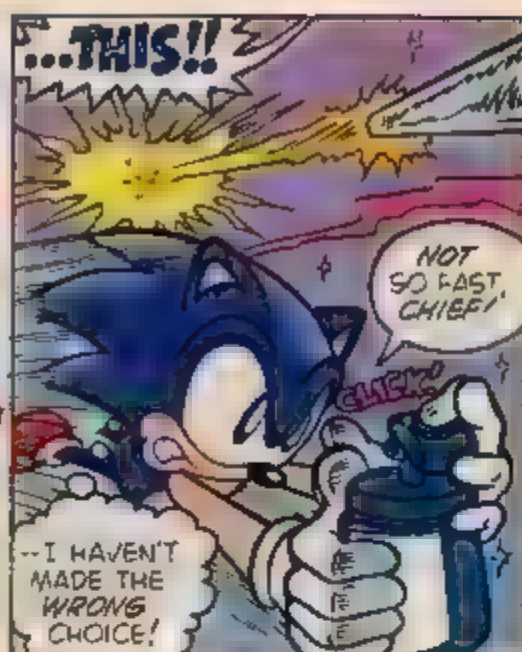
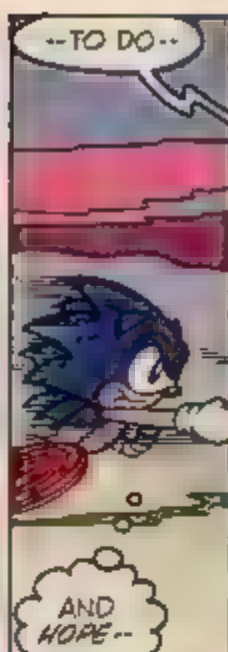
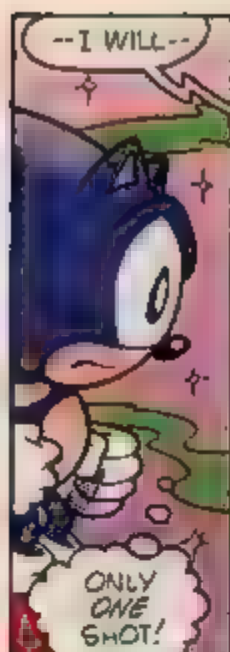
JUST
GIVE ME
A SEC--

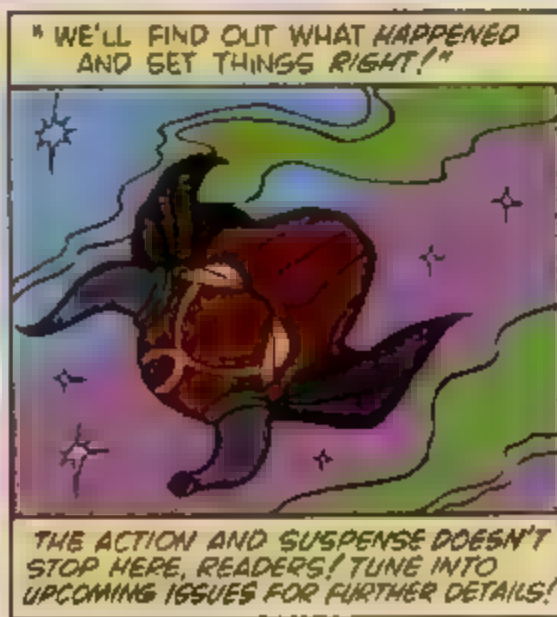
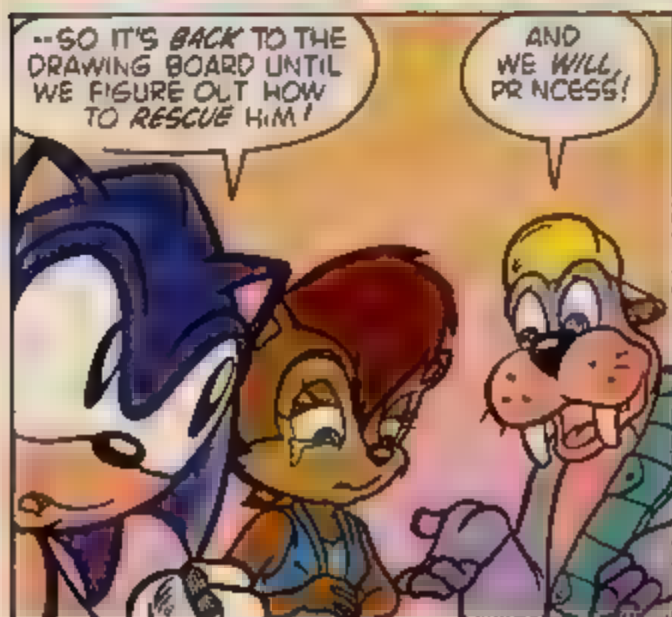
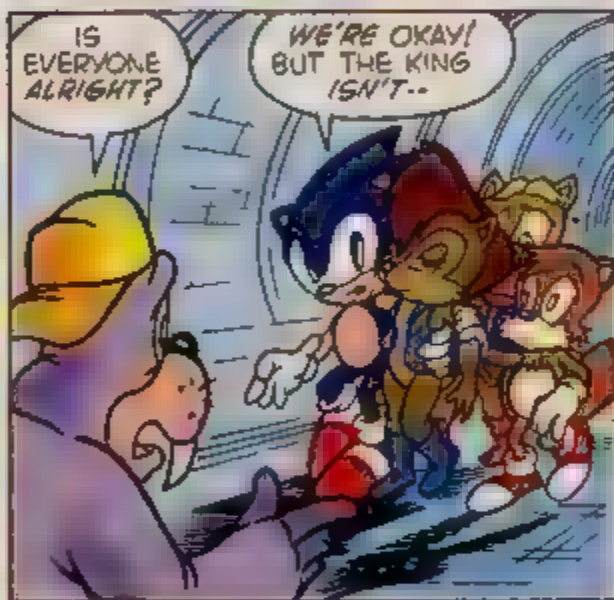
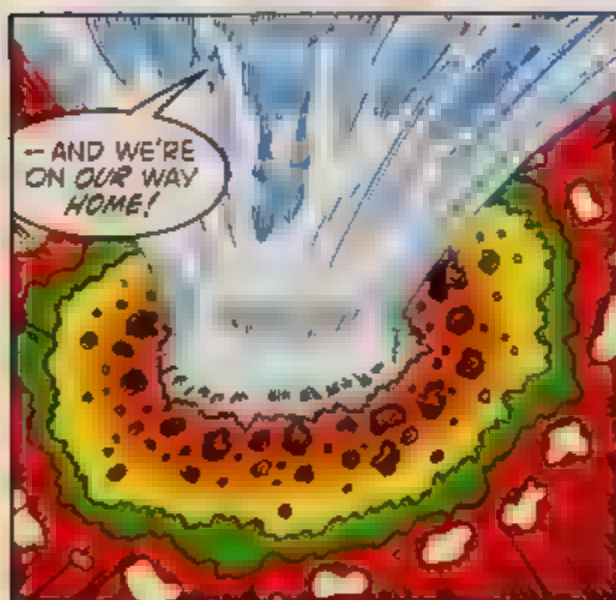
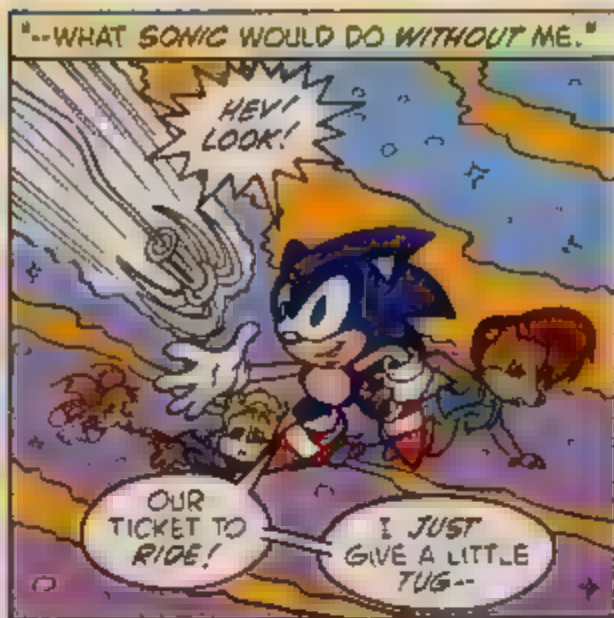
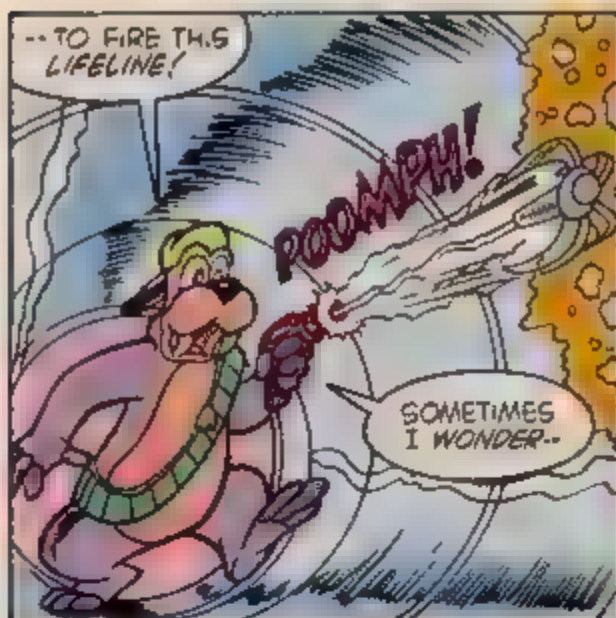




SALLY!







SONIC'S FRIENDLY NEMESIS KNUCKLES™

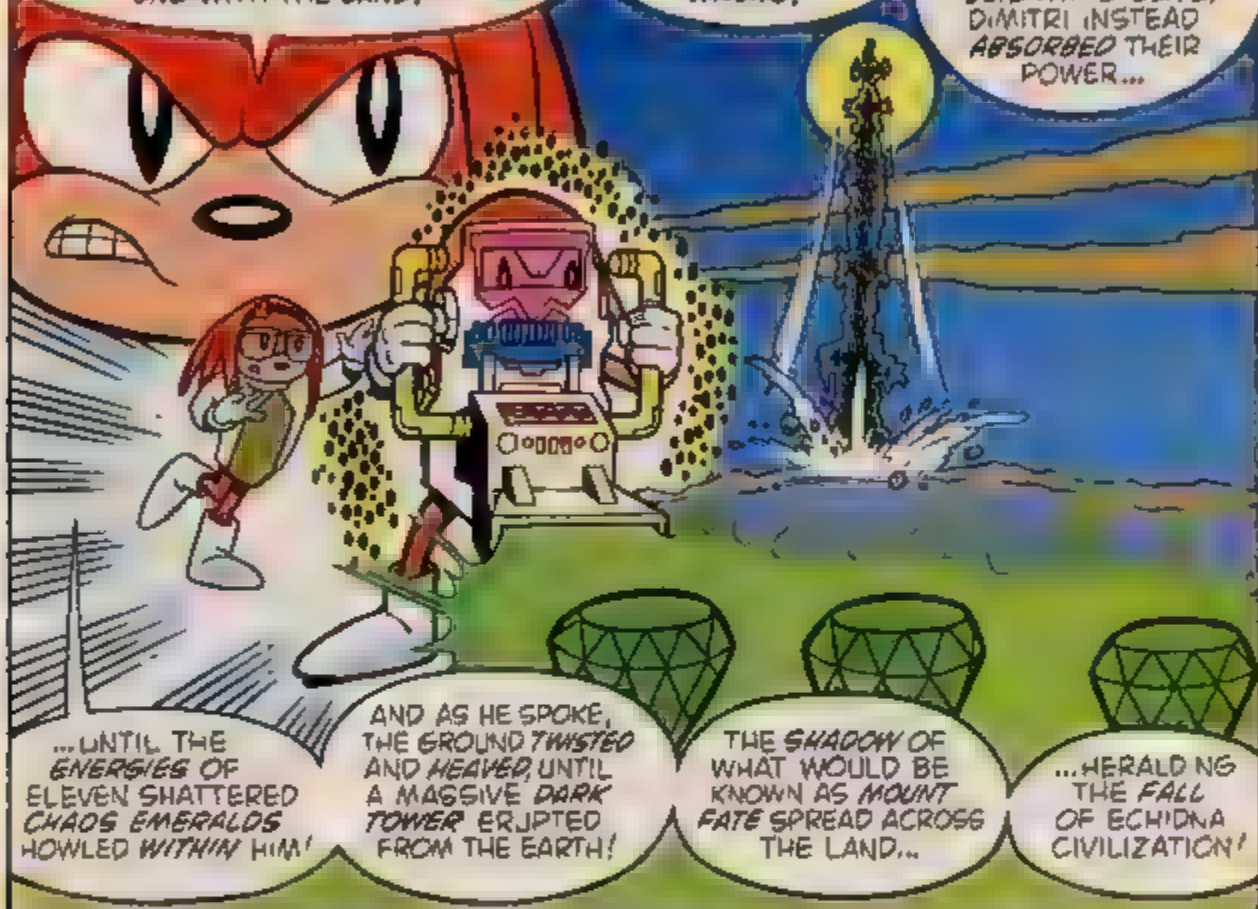
A SENSE OF HISTORY

PART III

EDMUND AND DIMITRI HAD A DREAM-- TO DRAIN THE GEMS WHICH HOLD THE FLOATING ISLAND ALOFT, THAT WE MIGHT AGAIN BECOME ONE WITH THE LAND!

BUT THE DREAM WENT HORRIBLY, TERRIBLY WRONG!

ACTING AGAINST THE WILL OF THE SCIENTIFIC ELITE, DIMITRI INSTEAD ABSORBED THEIR POWER...



...UNTIL THE ENERGIES OF ELEVEN SHATTERED CHAOS EMERALDS HOWLED WITHIN HIM!

AND AS HE SPOKE, THE GROUND TWISTED AND HEAVED, UNTIL A MASSIVE DARK TOWER ERUPTED FROM THE EARTH!

THE SHADOW OF WHAT WOULD BE KNOWN AS MOUNT FATE SPREAD ACROSS THE LAND...

...HERALDING THE FALL OF ECHIDNA CIVILIZATION!

SCRIPT: MIKE KANTOROVICH & KEN PENDERS PENCILS: KEN PENDERS INKS: JON D'AGOSTINO



MY FATHER TOLD ME THIS TALE-- BUT HOW DOES IT CONNECT TO ARCHIMEDES...

...AND THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING CHAOTIX?

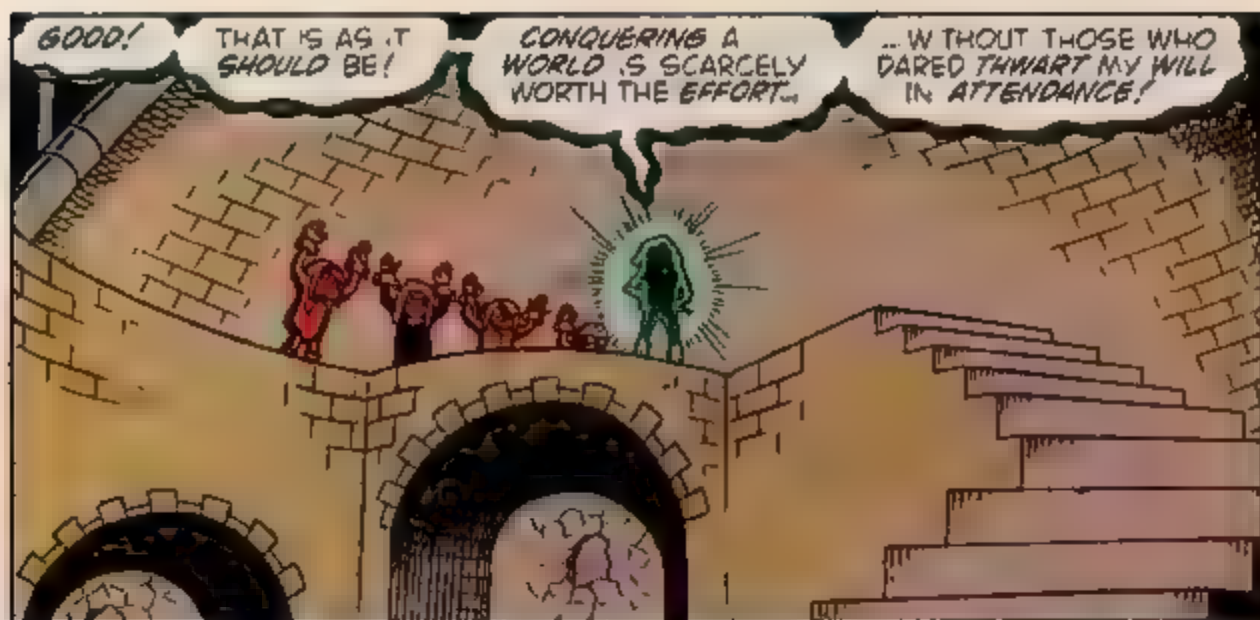
MAYBE THE ANSWERS...



"...LIE IN WHAT HAPPENED NEXT!"

SO...

...YOU AWAKEN!

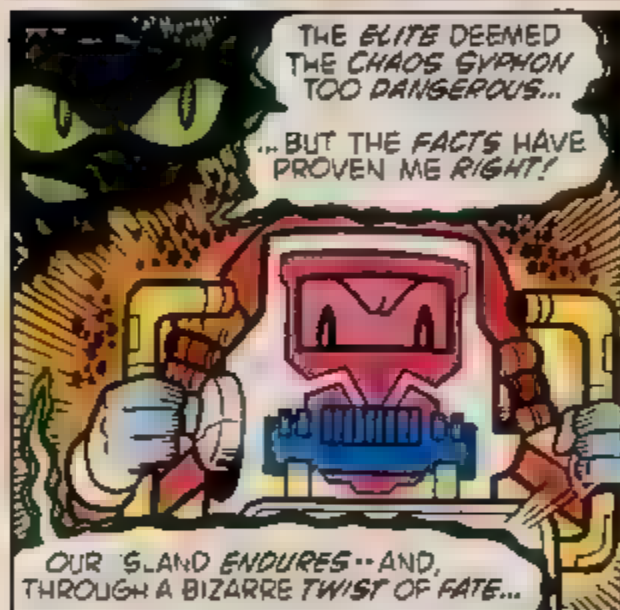


GOOD!

THAT IS AS IT
SHOULD BE!

CONQUERING A
WORLD IS SCARCELY
WORTH THE EFFORT...

...WITHOUT THOSE WHO
DARED THWART MY WILL
IN ATTENDANCE!



THE ELITE DEEMED
THE CHAOS SYPHON
TOO DANGEROUS...

...BUT THE FACTS HAVE
PROVEN ME RIGHT!

OUR ISLAND ENDURES--AND,
THROUGH A BIZARRE TWIST OF FATE...



...INFINITE
ENERGY IS
MINE TO
COMMAND!



YOUR EGO
HAS BETRAYED
US, DIMITRI!!

YOU'RE NOT THE
BROTHER I KNEW!

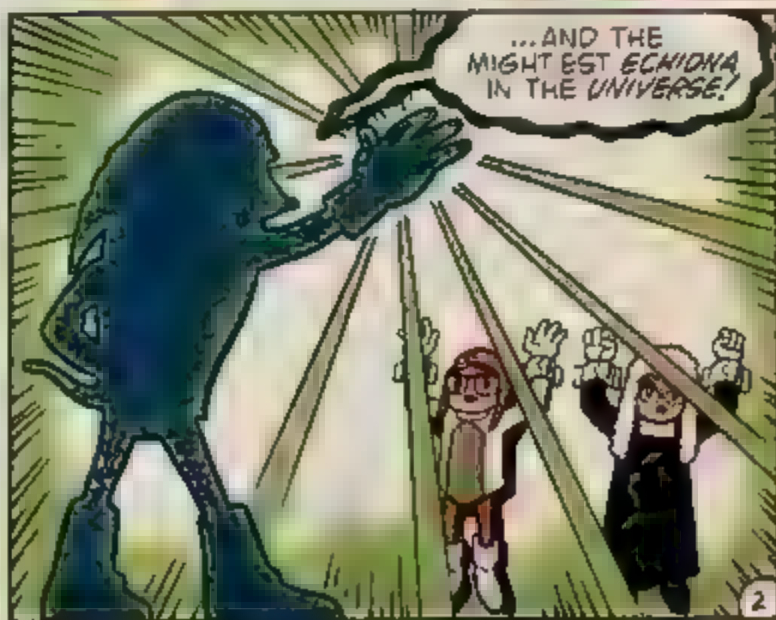


CORRECT,
EDMUND!

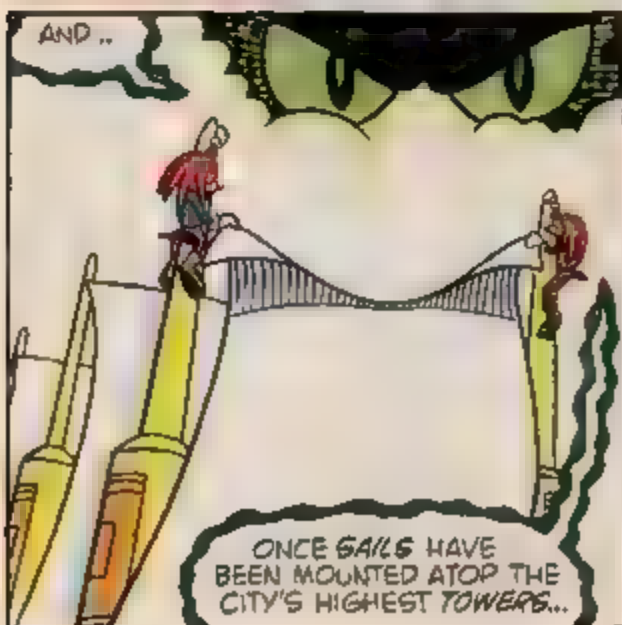
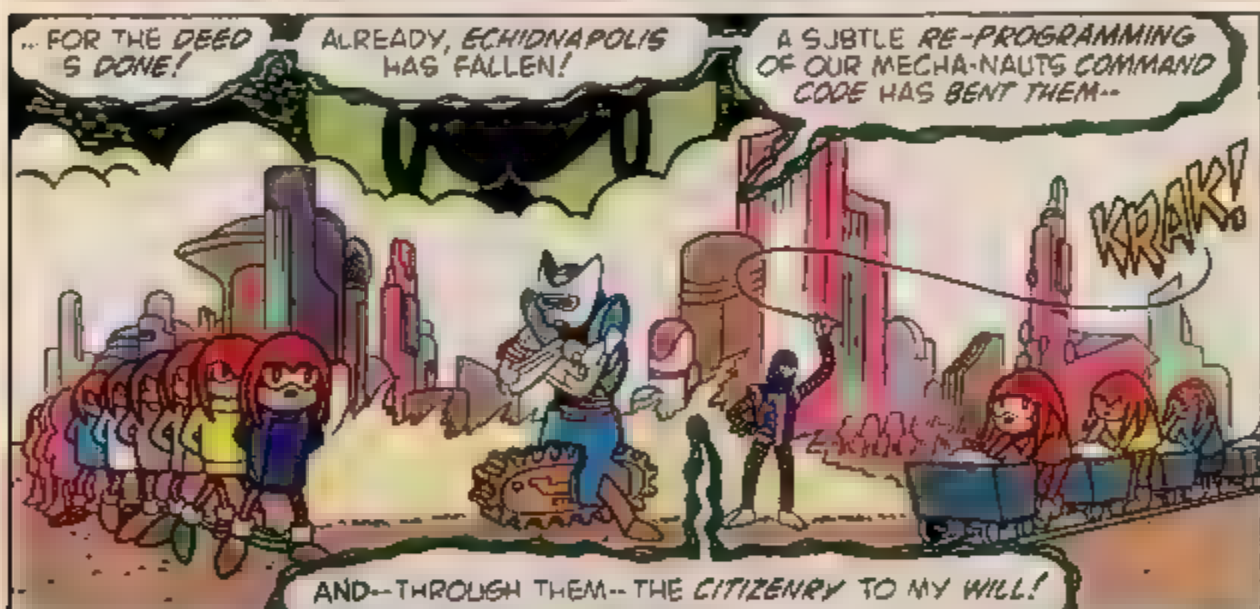
I AM FAR,
FAR MORE!

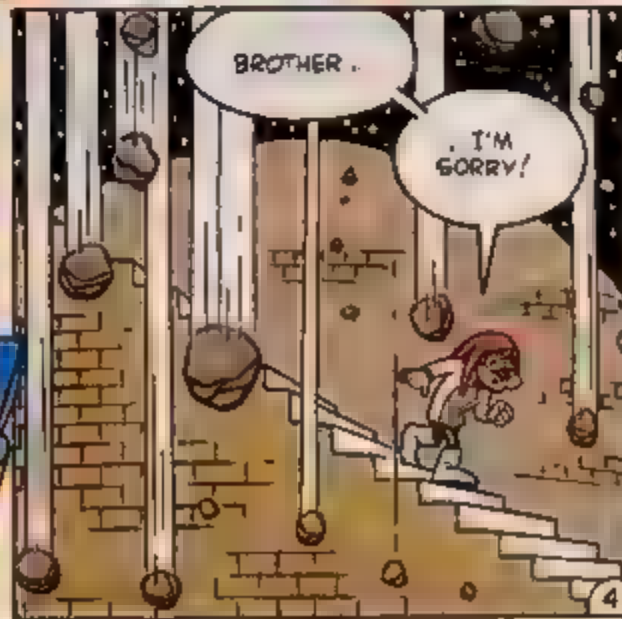
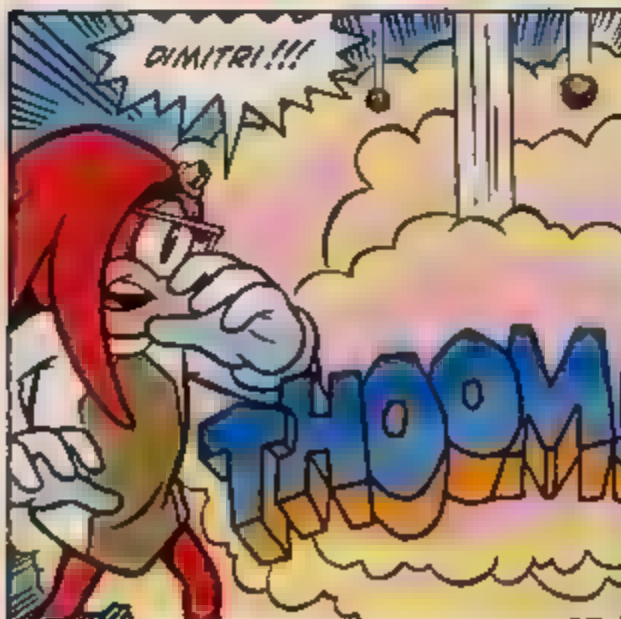
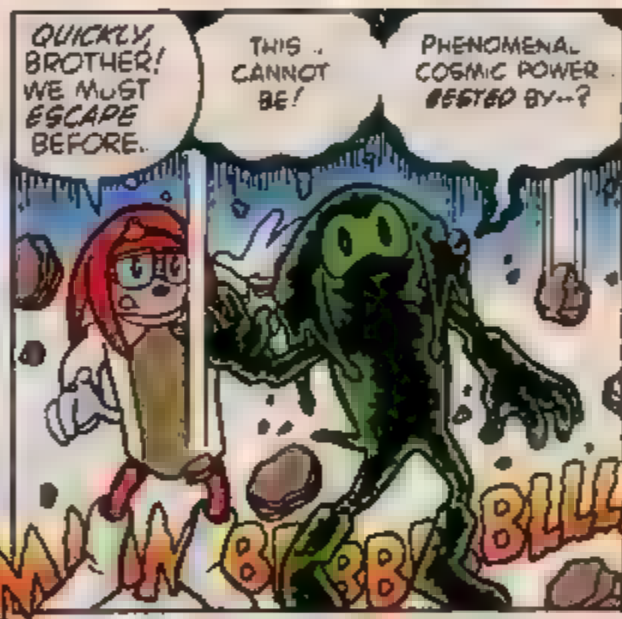
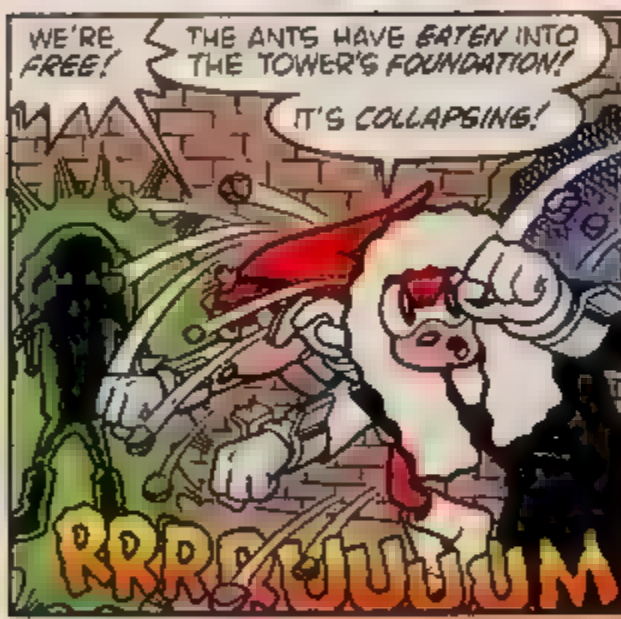
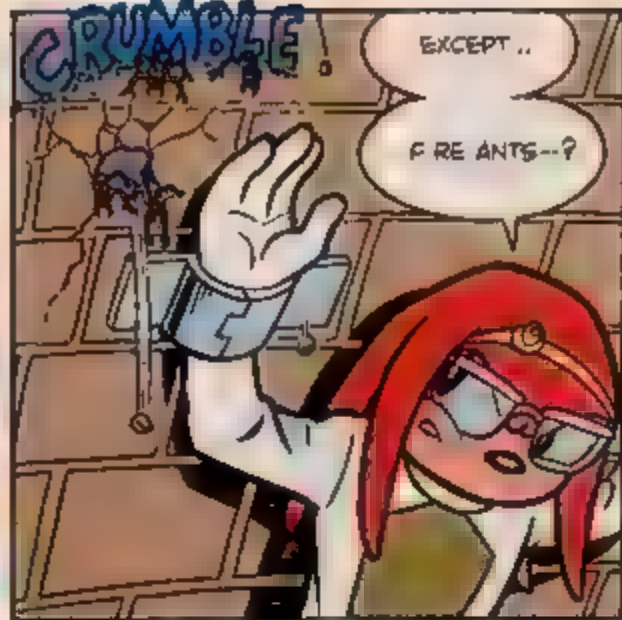
IMMORTAL...
ETERNAL...

A LIVING CHAOS
EMERALD...



...AND THE
MIGHTIEST ECHIDNA
IN THE UNIVERSE!







"GO TO THE ANT, THOU SLUGGARD, CONSIDER HIS WAYS, AND BE WISE!"

IT SEEMS WE OWE OUR VERY FUTURE...

...TO THESE, THE HUMBLEST OF GOD'S CREATURES!

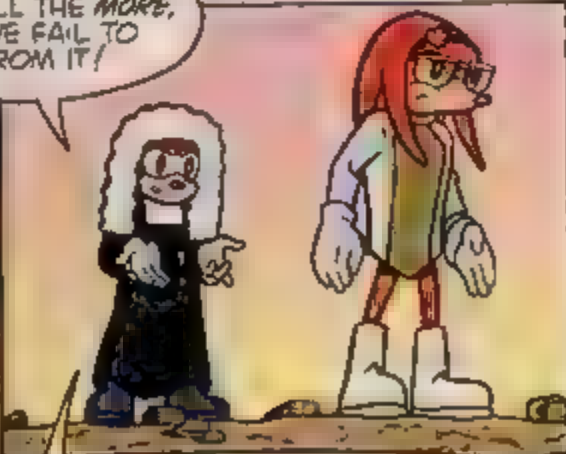


A TRAGEDY, EDMUND-- ALL THE MORE, SHOULD WE FAIL TO LEARN FROM IT!

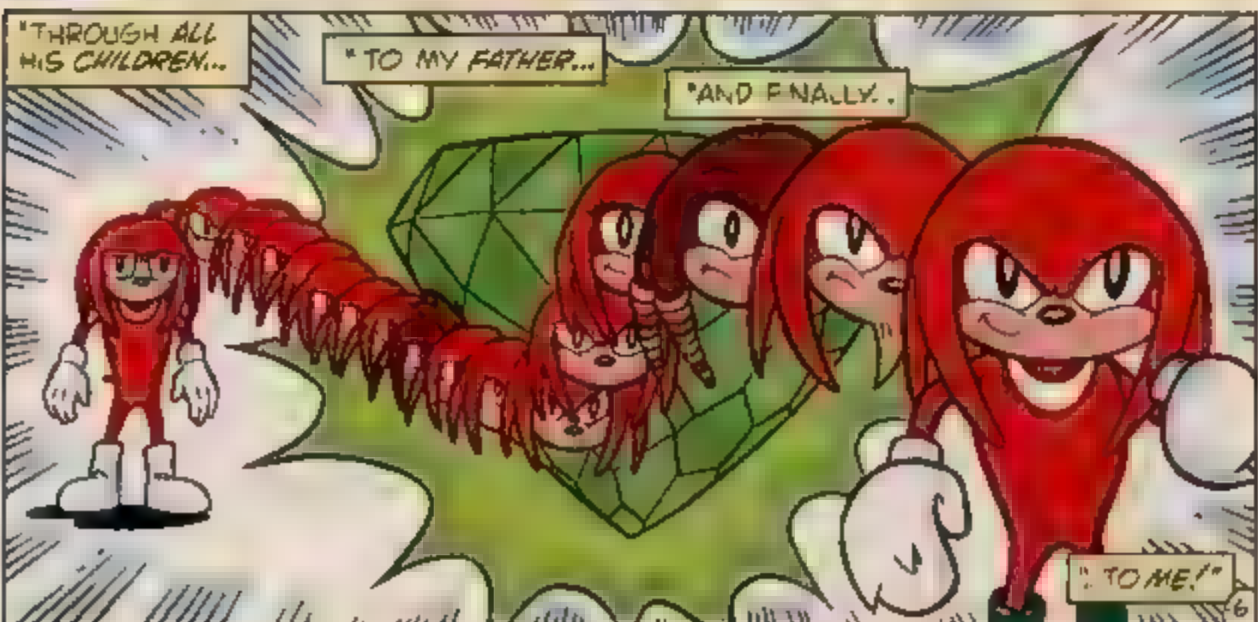
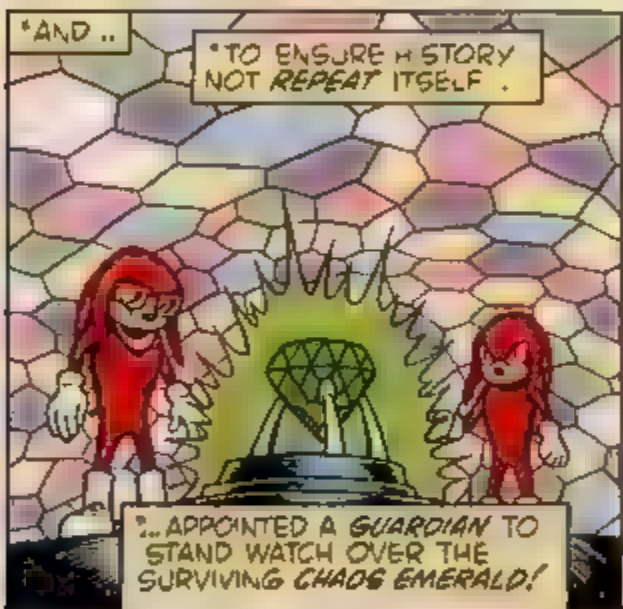
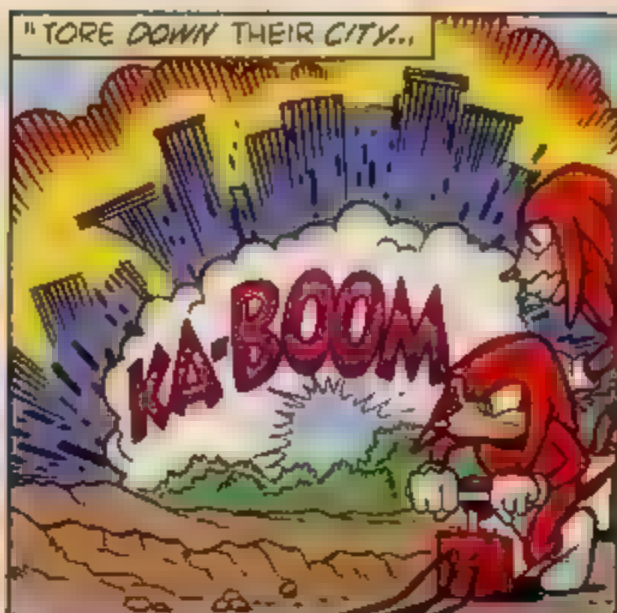
MY BROTHER... NOTHING COULD SAVE HIM FROM HIS FATE!

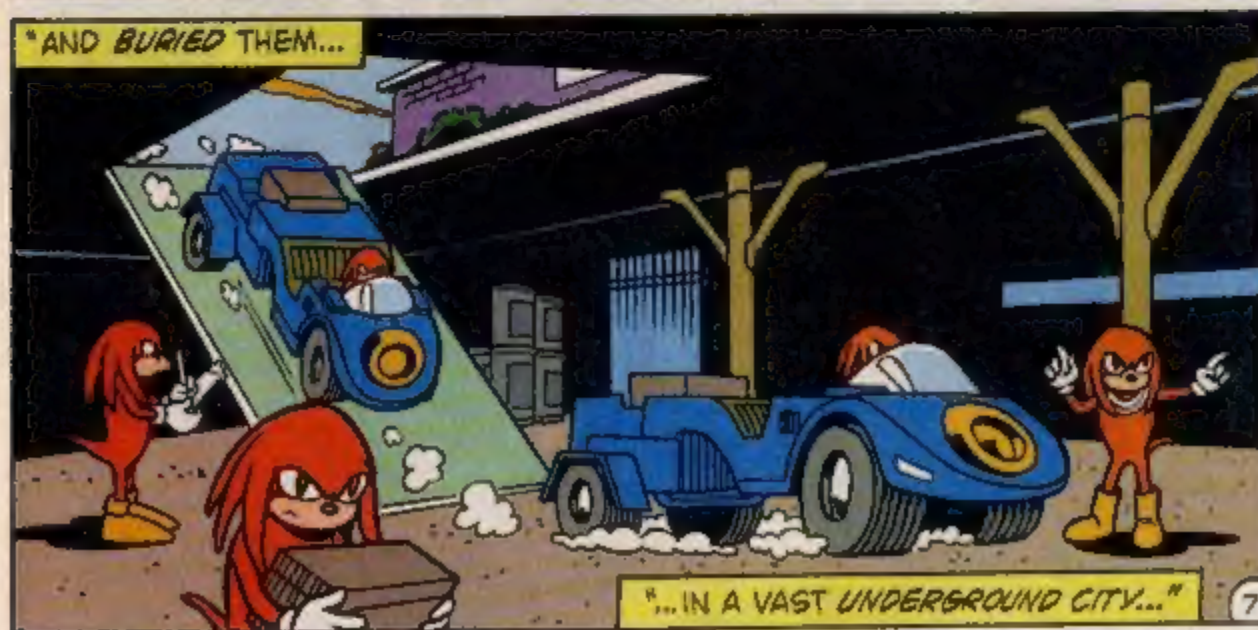
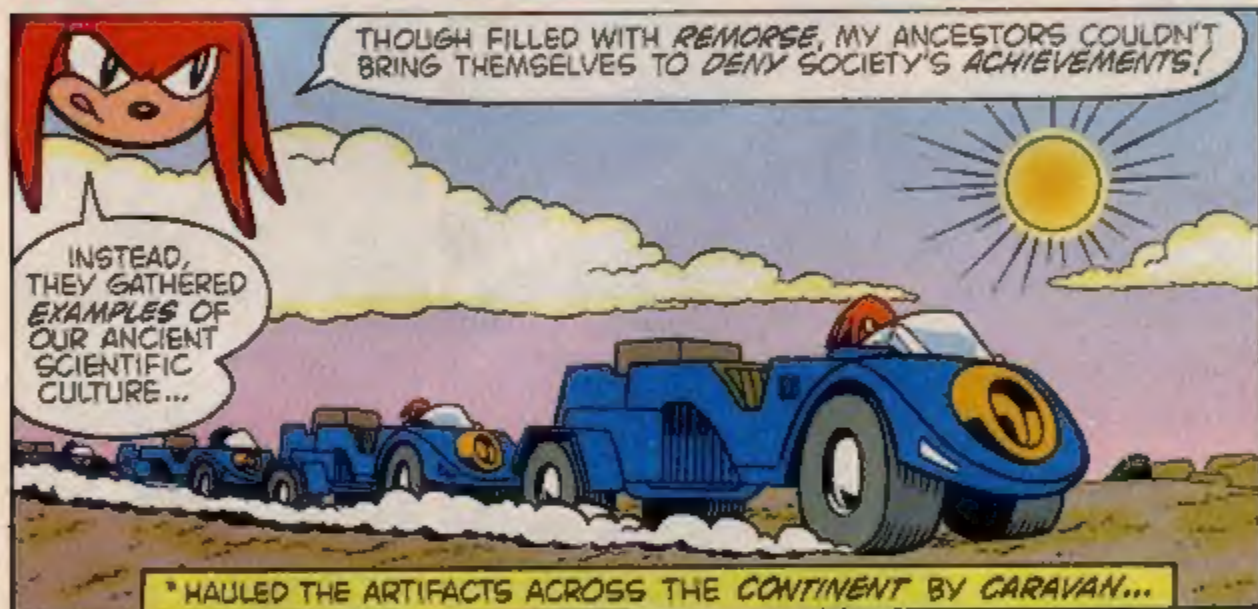
NOTHING..

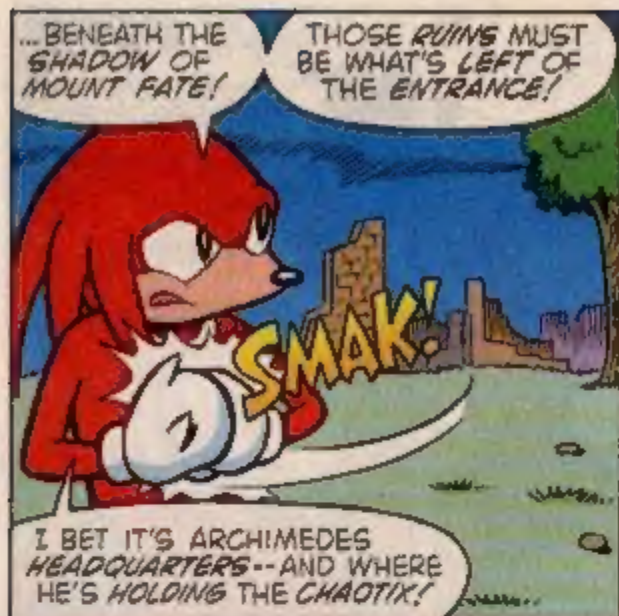
...AND NO ONE!



BY PLACING TRUST IN SCIENCE, OUR RACE HAS COMMITTED AN ACT OF HUBRIS-- ARROGANT PRIDE...







SONIC-GRAMS



The Fred-Man Cometh!

If you read last issue's letters page, then you know Scott "The Main Man" Fulop has left Knothole for other villages (but, not to fear... he may yet visit us one day). I have been given the privilege by the powers that be at ARCHIE-land to edit this book for you. Who am I, you ask? For those who know, you can skip the rest of this paragraph. For those who don't, I'm going to tell you a story. "His name is Freddy Mendez. Freddy worked in comics for about 4 1/2 years. He last worked with a MARVELous character of PUNISHing proportions, who, along with ARCHIE, made CROSSOVER history! Now he edits a 'Foursome of Finsters' as well as the 'Blue Blur' himself."

Now with that out of the way, let's talk about what you really want to know: mainly **Sonic the Hedgehog**! Lots and lots of stuff will be coming your way. First, if you haven't heard by now (and shame on you if you didn't), the **Knuckles** mini-series begins in **two weeks**! That's right—two weeks! Look for it in stores everywhere, or you can use the handy, dandy little coupon located in this issue! Don't let this one slip away!

Second, prepare yourself for the continuing saga of **Sonic and the Freedom Fighters** with next issue's story "The Day Robotropolis Fell!" It's not a hoax. It's not a dream. It's not an imaginary story. How does it happen? 'Tune in' and see for yourself! Written by **Angelo DeCesare**, with art by **Brian Thomas**! And what's a Sonic book without a **Spaz** cover? (Luckily, we don't have to know.) He's, of course, aided and abetted by the talents of **Harvo** and **Heroic Age**!

Lastly, the true king of **Mobius** has finally been found alive and well (almost)... and though Sonic and the gang weren't able to bring him back, you know they won't give up until they do! How does **Robotnik** feel about all this? What will he do? Time will tell... that's a promise! This is as **Sega-exciting** a time to be a hedgehog fan as it is for me to be a hedgehog editor. Until next month, keep on spinning (Sonic-style)!

Freddy

SEND BY LETTERS TO:
SONIC-GRAMS

C/O ARCHIE COMIC PUBLICATIONS, INC.,
P.O. BOX 419
MAMARONECK, NY 10543

P.S. MECHA MADNESS IS COMING! More info next month!

Dear Sonic-Grams,

I just adore Sonic the Hedgehog and his friends! I have all of Sega's Sonic games and a lot of Sonic merchandise, too. I love your comics... "They're Great!" I like all the characters but Tails is my favorite. I have some advice for him: I'm only twelve, just two years older than you, and we kids got to stick together. I heard about your love life with Fiona Fox and I think you're too young to date or to get into a serious relationship. I do agree that the Freedom Fighters treat you like a baby. It's not fair, is it?

I would like to see more of the Downunda Freedom Fighters than the Chaotix team. I think Knuckles is cool, but the rest of the Chaotix I don't. I have some questions:

1) Tails, I've never seen the paws under your gloves and shoes. What color are your paws? Are they black like the paws of an Earth fox?; 2) What species of animal are Princess Sally and Antoine?; 3) Is Sonic's TV show still on ABC?; 4) When is Sonic's next Sega game coming out? Is it going to be on Sega Saturn?; 5) Is there to be a Sonic animated movie? That would be way past cool.; 6) When are Sonic, Tails and Knuckles' birthdays? I'll send a card.

Tell Sonic and Knuckles I said hi and I will continue to get all their books.

Kim Wessel
122 SE Caulder Circle
Des Moines, IA 50315

Hey, Kim, I hope you don't mind me shortening your letter so I could fit it into Sonic-Grams. You're right about Tails though. He's got his whole life ahead of him to meet more foxes (especially ones that aren't

roboticized). Now let's speed up to your questions: 1) Tails is a Mobian fox not an Earth fox so his paws are the same as the rest of his fur.; 2) The Princess is a squirrel and Antoine is a fox.; 3) Nope.; 4) Sega Saturn is coming up with "Virtua Sonic" for Winter '96. How's that for a scoop?; 5) I hope so. It would be way, way past cool.; 6) That information is classified (but here's a hint, find out the exact dates when Sonic games 1, 2 & 3 first came out). Next letter is for that echidna, again...

**"I think
Knuckles
is cool..."**

Dear Knuckles,

I like you better than anyone and I like how you fight with your knuckles. I have some questions to ask you: 1) How did you get your knuckles?; 2) How old are you?; 3) Why are you the protector of the Floating Island?; 4) What's the name of your dad? Also, I would like to see more Rotor solo stories.

Danny Weaver
Manassas, Virginia

What do you mean you like him better than anyone? Even me? I'm jealous! Just (not) kidding! Those questions just keep on coming: 1) He was born with them. Ouch.; 2) He's my age, I think. That's fifteen for those of you just tuning in.; 3) If you read the last part of "Sense of History" in this issue, then you know now.; 4) His name is a mystery, even to Knuckles himself! He just knows him as "father" or "dad." Those echidnas really are strange, huh? Anybody else want to see more Rotor

solo? Write in and let us know. This is Sonic blue-blurring his way out! Catch you in thirty!

**ON SALE MAY '96...
SONIC #37**



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